CHAMELEON EFFECTS USED

Marked and Artful Simplicity in Imported Frocks.

Color Combinations Which Call for an Artist's Work if They Are to Be Sucrssful and Harmonious—The Peasant Skirt Popular but Hard to Manage Lines Still Slender-The Use of the Afternoon Frocks With Short Skirts Tailored Trotting Costume

There is a marked and artful simplicity ut a majority of the imported model backs which the best houses are showing Aside from lace, which is lavishly used on frocks of certain types, garnitures



FINE SILK AND CHIPPON

seem inclined to obtain their effects through originality of line and subtle blending of color rather

Even hand embroidery does not play so ortant a part in design as it has played last few seasons, though of course much of it is used and touches of it occur e introduced in most of the frocks



BLACK AND WHITE CHECK SILE

and this contrast of material, together with self-trimming of one kind or another gives relief to the model not otherwise ornate. Then too the bordure materials, brocades and Persian stuffs are in themselves too beautiful to demand or admit of much trimming

Veiling has become a mania, an epi-



BLACK CHIFFON TUNIO

in part by chiffon, etamine or tulle is the exception, save in the province of tub frecks and severe tailored models, and it is not surprising that the designers have taken up this idea with enthusiasm, for anything of more delightful possibilities it would be hard to imagine.

The artist whose color sense is a matter of inspiration finds here his golden opportunity, and we do not remember a season when the difference between artist and tyro cas so definitely marked by such intangible, impossible barriers. Colors the novice would never dream of associating are-Statht together in exquisite harmony,



A GOWN OF LACE AND CHIFFON WITH IRIDESCENT TRIMMING, A GOWN OF WHITE BROCADE WITH A BLACK CHIFFON TUNIC AND prehension of that one has but little TOUCHES OF EMERALD GREEN, AND A FROCK OF BLACK NET AND LACE WITH CERISE SILK.

fully developed in many materials adds some of the pinkish lavenders and purples to the possibilities and problems in this are all in themselves slightly spectacular.

colors are, on the whole, hard and un-satisfactory, but it is difficult to see upon greens, the askes of roses and askes of The frock not veiled wholly or what this criticism is based, for while many of the solid tones lack real beauty the shifting, blending panorama of color is lovelier than usual, and it is only for the uninspired that the color card does not spell beauty. Some of the popular tones are vivid and demand careful handling, but here the softening possibilities of veiling come in, and even when not veiled these striking hues are effectively mated with colors less voyant.

> Chantecler colors, some of the ceris shades, the glowing tangerine and pinkish yellows, the dominant China, royal and



GRAY AND CHERRY COLOR

PERSIAN BORDERED POULARD

he used in quantity if cleverly used, and if it is in itself beautiful. For example, one firm is showing a truly exquisite model in various glowing hues. It is of chiffon over soft satin.

greens, the ashes of roses and ashes of

black and whites tone down the riot of

Even the most

The softly fulled skirt is almost solidly hand embroidered in self-tone up to the The bodice is one of the ubiquitous one piece affairs with body and sleeve out in one, flat and plain across front and back, with the fulness below the

bust fulled into the waist band.

and the chameleon coloring so wonder- French blues, the more vivid greens and bottoms of the loose short sleeves are are considerably exploited in the heavier embroidered, and a band of the embroid- silks, especially in the chiffon taffetas, ery borders the neck, which is collariess and Paris has accepted enthusiastically and cut a little lower at the sides than in the little street costumes and afternoon but they are all used with most harmonious results, while the softer tones, the sea costumes of changeable taffeta which

front and back. A girdle is of the satis and there is a as a rule are decidedly aggressive in color mere line of cream inside the neck, scheme, even when that same color scheme violet, the melting yellows and rose Despite the rich embroidery the effect has much beauty. King's blue and yellow tints, the beige and champagne tones is of consummate simplicity. But the brown, chartreuse green and tan, green are all lovely, and the modish grays and coloring! and blue, lavender and blue, gray and

One version is of changeable chiffon in rose and many other combinations are the brilliant pinkish yellow tones. It is seen, and almost always a sheer material hardly a tangerine, rather a combination in one of the colors or in corresponding of a crocus yellow and shrimp pink, changeable color is used with the taffeta resulting in a glowing hue indescribably in greater or less quantity. lovely. Another copy of the same model is in the vivid China blue over black, part of the bodies only, or it may be another in a lovely pinkish lavender over introduced in the upper part of the skirt as well as the bodice. Sometimes a soft gray green blue.

To our notion the changes ble or chathe sheer veiling is not in either of the meleon effects are at their best in these colors represented in the silk; as for in-



this last arrangement, and a sketch of this model is given in the central group to-day. Here the material is a light, supple white satin trimmed in fine black

The veiling may appear in the upper

mine is made up over a foundation of changeable green and gold, or a change-able lavender and blue veils a silvery

Lovely veiled arrangements in black chiffon or etamine over white or color abound and make extremely practical frocks. Where the foundation is white a vivid relieving note of color almost always appears. It may be only in a

girdle or in a veiled scarf or bodice or skirt or it may be a deep hand on the

bottom of the skirt repeated in a girdle.

Last week we spoke of a very success-

ful Drécoll evening frock which illustrates

The lace veils the entire bodice and forms frills on the clinging skirt, but the striking feature of the model is the exquisite shade of certse satin which forms the lower part of the skirt and the girdle. Black tulle is draped around the top of the girdle and knotted in front and white tulle is used for the frills of the short sleeves and for the tiny tucker.

Another good looking model in white black and color is from Martial & Armand and also figures in the central group. This frock is of white brocade veiled in black chiffon and the touch of color is introduced in a band of brilliant green which holds the skirt fulness in, below ed in the girdle and

again in little motifs on the bodice and skirt in two equally deep plaited sections Black lace is draped below the veiled band of green on the skirt and used lightly on shoulders and sleeves. Of the tendency to hold the skirt ful-

ness in toward the bottom we have spoken often, but only as the season advances are the disastrous developments of this mode seen. Verily Poiret, the revolutionary dressmaking artist who has impressed himself so forcibly upon the dressmaking world of Paris this season, has much to answer for. He is responsible for the peasant skirt, by which is to be understood all the varieties of drawn in skirts, and at its best his idea, as has been admitted before, has much to commend it, but the trouble with this skirt is that it demands a master artist hand in the designing, and unfortunately the master artists of dresemaking are few while the audacious

bunglers are many.

If in skilled hands the developments of the Poiret idea are freakish as often as beautiful and in the hands of the bunglerwell, look about you and see the lamen-table results. There are always women who will adopt any extreme style, whether it is beautiful or not, and the manufacturers have provided for this class cos-

tumes which would be funny if they were not so nearly tragic. Last Saturday a young woman appeared on the avenue in a blue serge with short belted coat and a skirt whose front breadth was plain, while around sides and back the skirt was pulled into the waistband and drawn into a plain band at the bottom deep and with the plain front breadth

not more than two yards, if that. Above the fulness hooped out barrelwise, and a hard to imagine, yet the costume was of good materials and the wearer shuffled and mineed along—she could not walk freely—proudly convinced that the heads of all the passersby turned to watch her progress in profound admiration.

The peasant skirt is unquestionably adapted only to house wear, and even there it must be a gem of its kind; so. mesdames, unless you can afford to employ a dressmaker of the highest class trotting skirt shows a tendency to carry turn your back upon the Poiret skirt. Fortunately there are plenty of grace-

ful models of other types, though it must he confessed that a majority of the suggest. Some of these walking skirts French models insist upon a narrow, are uncomfortably narrow at bottom limp skirt and a straight slenderness but there are numerous models in which of line throughout the figure. are sporadic attempts among the great dressmakers to introduce fuller and more without doing away with the desired dressmakers to introduce fuller and more bouffant lines, but the women have proved unwilling to give up the straight. collante lines and the dressmakers have perforce bowed to the preference. The season develops. This is a natural season develops. This is a natural sequence to the belted Russian lines, and some of the loosely belted Norfolk coats are very graceful and wearable.

They are perhaps at their best in the light loose woven homespuns and tweeds are, but we have seen good Norfolk and

ceeds from the almost universal use of the modified Japanese sleeve. Though details vary there is a striking resemblance between the upper parts of bodices because of this sleeve in one with the shoulder and usually falling in short. rather loose lines or used in these same ines over a little undersleeve of some The sleeve when properly cut and handled is generally becoming and graceful, but the flat, plain effect across chest and shoulder which often accompanies it is not becoming to every figure and many women look better in a draped or full bodice.

Surplice drapery, bib arrangements. ful, but the flat, plain effect across chest

Surplice drapery, hib arrangements, tumes. with sheer plaiting or fulness in the upper part of the bodice and lower bodice sections full from a flat yoke cut in one with the sleeves are all used, and it is little possible to find something to suit every of the

rangements of shoulder and sleeve and makers, though, as has been said before, some of them have an air of simplicity Unluckily black and white drawings give less adequate impressions than usual this season when so much depends open color scheme.

One of the byeliest models we have seen is the Francis frock illustrated in one of the small cuts, a dull pink chiffon of exquisite tone veiling a bordered Persian silk. The bottom of the skirt, the girdle and plaited bands are of dull pink ailk and there is a line of creamy white finishing the collarless neck. So much one can describe, but to give an idea of lovely melting color harmonies of the Persian tones and their old pink veiling is a hopeless task, and lacking comunderstanding of the model's beauty.

Persian design and color gives the eachet to a model from Lafeivière, but this time the Persian effect appears only in a border upon a soft beautiful raw silk of white ground sprinkled with little black

Stripes are slowly but surely gaining ground, and many of the prettiest late models are in wide or narrow stripes. gray and white or white and black being favored coloring, with the usual dash of bright color to liven the scheme. A smart black and white mousseline de soje in nch wide stripes is made with a de

The plaiting is so done that at the top of the flounce only the white shows, while toward the bottom the skirt flare necessitions. tates so pressing the plaits that the blue

At the top of the lower flouren a see skirt and knotted, the result being the the upper flounce has an air of belongit; with the plaited and girdled bedice Russian fashion rather than with the

the collariess neck has a flat finish of white lace, the skirt is short, the girdle is of black satin and into this girdle in thrust a knot of little red and pink roses which give just the right relieving note

Soft gray and white mousseline veiled in gray or in dull pink has been chosen for some good looking models, and there are some lovely things in China blue and white stripes veiled in black.

The grays stand particularly well, and the delicate grays in particular are more popular than they have been for some time. Some of the mest distinguished frocks shown by the importers are in a wonderfully soft smoky gray of quite light tone that should be becoming to any one who can wear gray at all.

One such frock in chiffon has a finely plaited skirt falling over a foundation of crepe in the same gray. On the bottom of this overskirt is a band of beautiful black lace of cobwebby texture and just above this band you see vaguely through the chiffon a wide band of crear

lace set into the crèpe foundation.

The flat plain chiffon bodice with the usual Japanese sieeve has bands of black lace on the bottom of the sieeve and about chiffon is set into the collar just below the hem. The chiffon of this bodice is made over cream lace. The effect is refined and charming to an extraordinar degree, and there are other gray modelof the same general type which should delight conservatives who want the modish but not the conspicuous

A surprising number of dressy after noon frocks are made short, and the the short skirt idea to extremes, but women are as a rule requiring a little more length than the extreme models some arrangement of plaits supplies enough width for comfortable walking

light loose woven homespuns and tweeds. Ac., but we have seen good Norfolk and near Norfolk models in the serges.

The most knowing looking tailored costumes are of decided severity and the coats range all the way from three-quarter length to bolero, though the half length coat is the general favorite.

Pongees, taffetas and foulards are all being pressed into service for the tailored trotting costume, and the coat and skirlor coat and frock models in dotted dark blue and white foulard, strictly tailored and bound with plain dark blue. blue and white foulard, strictly tailors and bound with plain dark blue, has

Norfolk coats with wide patent leath-belts are liked for white serge sportin costumes, and the French makers us the patent leather belt upon such dress ith the sleeves are all used and it is little frocks as the gray and whit of the sketch, its red cashmere on the skirt bottom, its embroidere yoke veiled in the net and its guim black chiffon.

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